



# COMAL COUNTY

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## PUBLIC INFORMATION

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### **External audit gives county financial report a ‘clean’ opinion**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, JUNE 25, 2020:**

*NEW BRAUNFELS* — External auditors have given Comal County’s annual financial report an unqualified, or “clean,” opinion, meaning it is free of material misstatements.

The report was presented Thursday to the Comal County Commissioners Court.

“It’s the highest opinion you can receive from an independent auditing firm,” Jeremy Barbatto, manager at the San Antonio auditing firm ABIP P.C., told the court.

The Texas Local Government Code requires counties to produce a set of audited financial reports each year. The Comal County Auditor’s Office prepares the annual report, which is then reviewed by an external accounting firm. ABIP examined the report for the 2019 calendar year and found the statements are presented fairly in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

“Comal County works every year to ensure our budget process is transparent and leaves the county in a sound financial position,” said County Auditor Jessie Rahe. “This report affirms those efforts.”

In 2019, the Comal County general fund received \$67.64 million in revenue while spending \$65.14 million. The \$5.23 million surplus raised the county’s fund balance to \$34.66 million, or six months’ reserves. Last August, commissioners approved a \$72.96 million general fund budget as part of an overall \$110.91 million 2020 budget. The 2021 budget approval process is underway.

The 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report will be available at the county’s financial transparency webpage: [co.comal.tx.us/Transparency\\_Financial.htm](http://co.comal.tx.us/Transparency_Financial.htm).

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